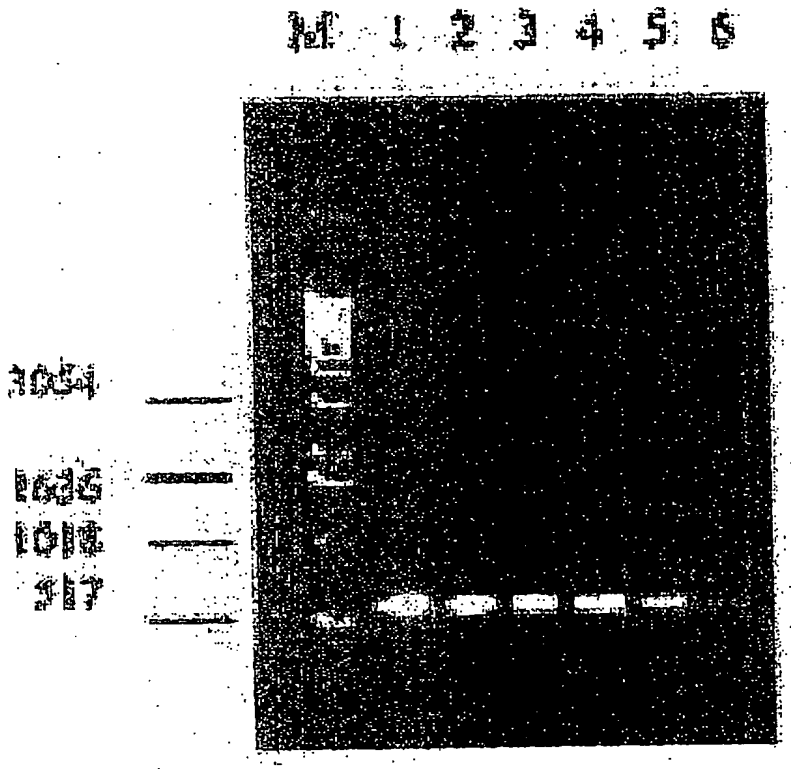

FIG. 1. Sensitivity of the PCR assay. Shown are the results of PCR amplification of the serially diluted *L. donovani* (DD8) DNA analyzed on agarose gels. DNA was extracted from parasite cultures and amplified as described in Materials and Methods. Lane M, 1 kb Ladder (Gibco BRL); lane 1, 10 ng of DNA; lane 2, 1 ng of DNA; lane 3, 10 pg of DNA; lane 4, 1 pg of DNA; lane 5, 10 fg of DNA; lane 6, 1 fg of DNA.

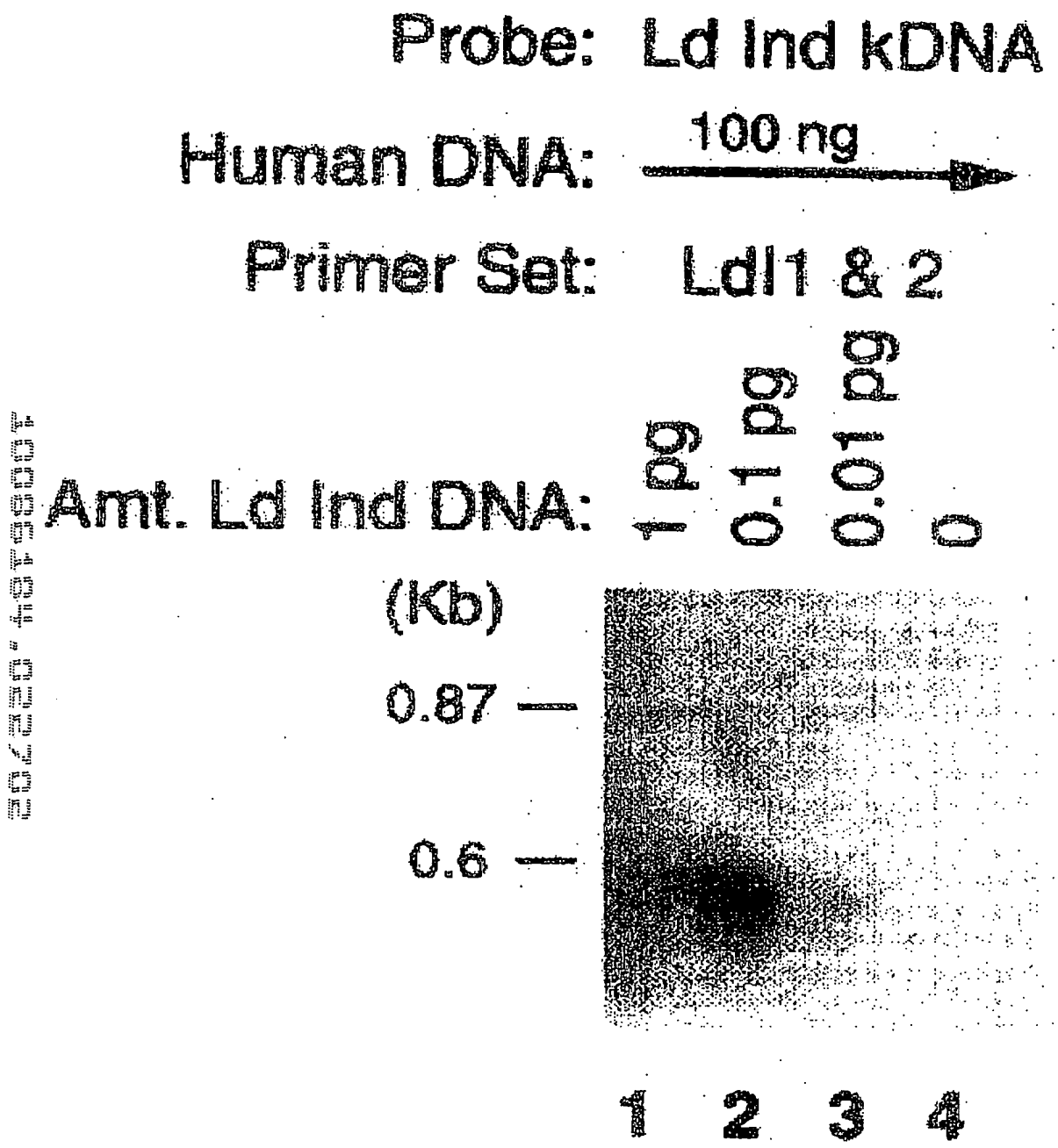

FIG. 2. Sensitivity of PCR amplification of *Leishmania* kDNA followed by Southern blot analysis. The PCR contained 100 ng of human genomic DNA and the indicated amount of total DNA from *L. donovani* DD8. The PCR product was probed with parasite kDNA and exposed for about 1 h. Lane 4 represents a PCR containing only human DNA as a control.

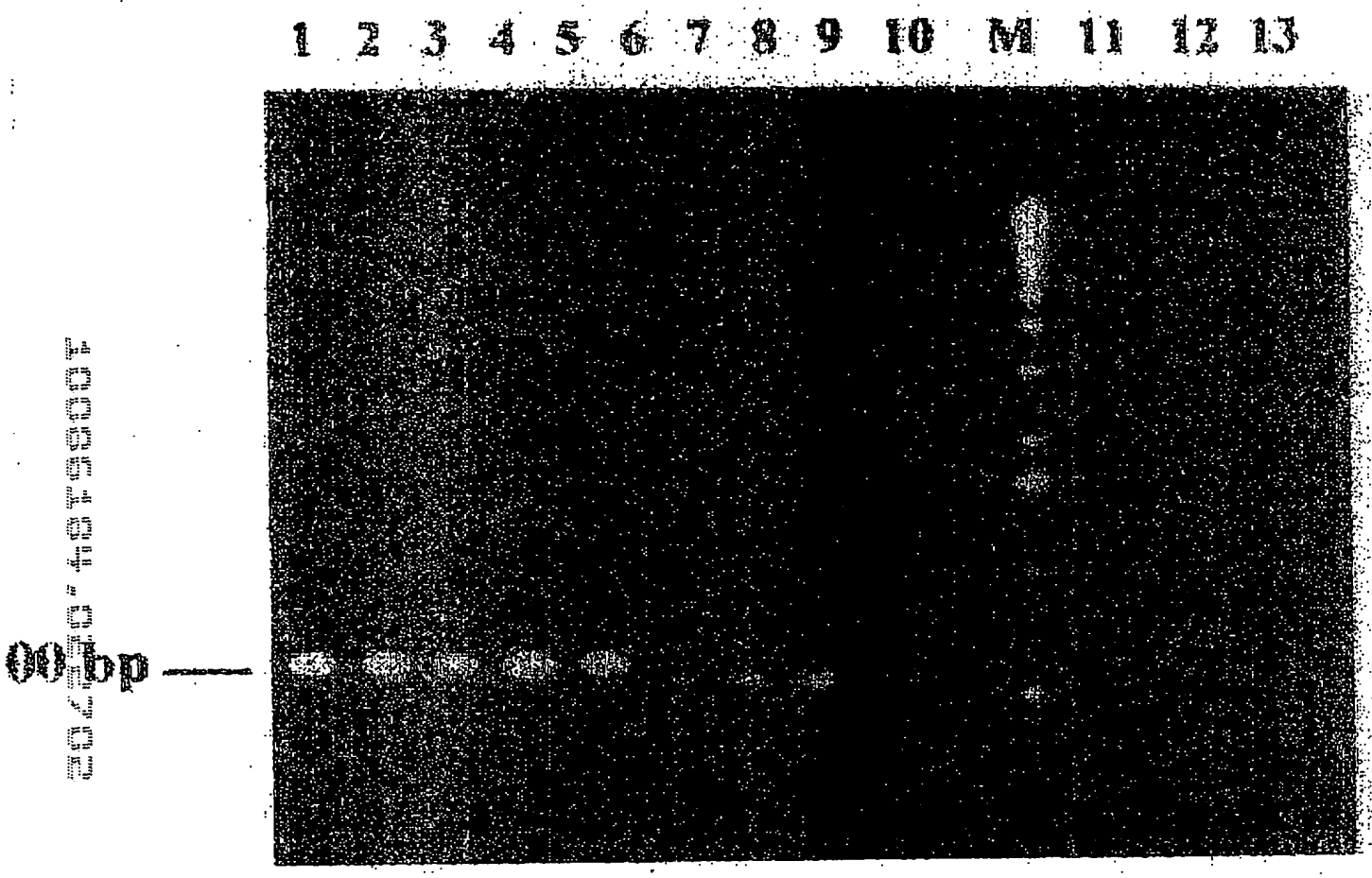

FIG. 3. Amplification of parasite DNA from various strains and olates of *Leishmania*. DNA (1 ng) isolated from parasite cultures was ubjected to PCR and analyzed. Lane 1, *L. donovani* AG83; lane 2, *donovani* DD8; lane 3, *L. donovani* HCB8; lane 4, *L. donovani* CB6; lane 5, *L. donovani* HCB 7 (PKDL origin); lane 6, *L. donovani* 5; lane 7, *L. donovani* WR684; lane 8 *L. donovani infantum*; lane 9, *tropica* WR683; lane 10, *L. major* LV 39, lane M, 1-kb ladder, lane 1, *Plasmodium*; lane 12, *M. leprae*; lane 13, *M. tuberculosis*.

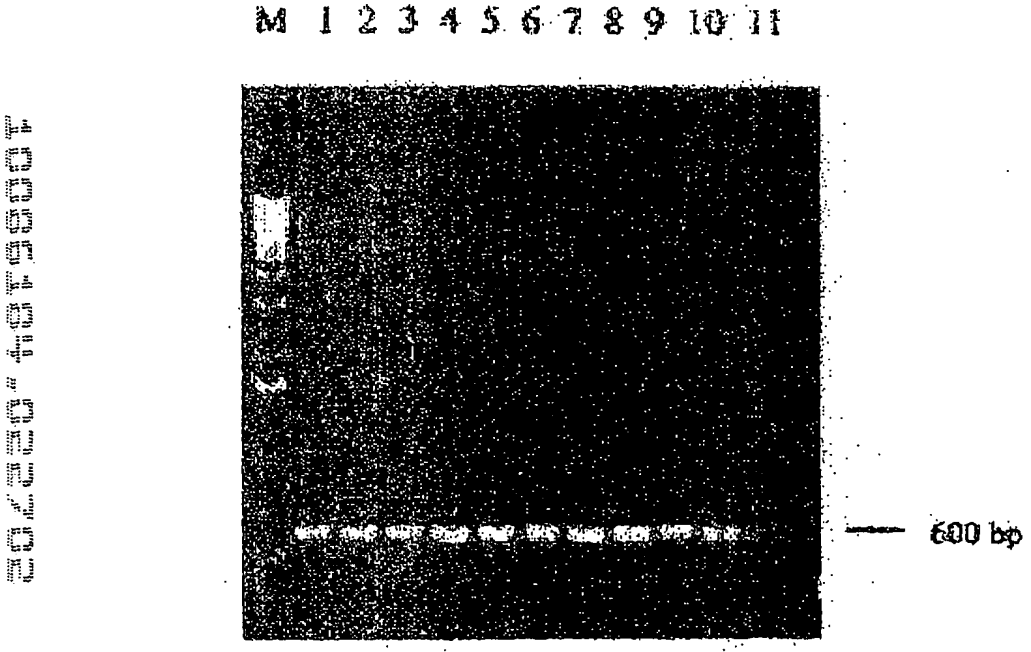

FIG. 4. DNA amplification from recent field isolates of KA and KDL. DNA (1 ng) extracted from cultures of parasite isolates was sed for PCR amplification. Lanes: M, 1-kb ladder; 1, KA-1; 2, KA-2; , KA-3; 4, KA-4; 5, KA-5; 6, PK-1; 7, PK-2; 8, PK-3; 9, PK-4; 10, PK-5; 1, isolate from a patient with cutaneous leishmaniasis.

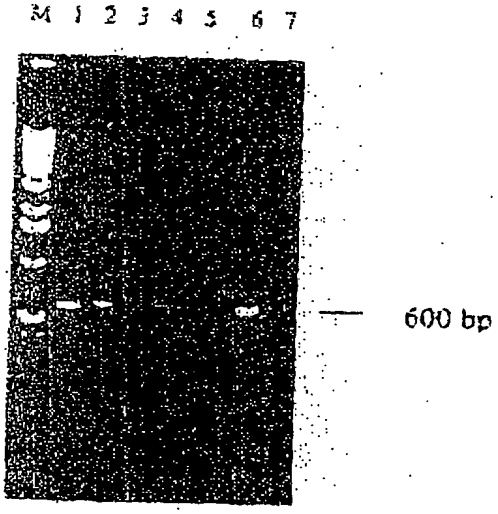

FIG. 5. PCR assay with clinical samples of KA and PKDL. DNA (100 ng) isolated from clinical samples was used for PCR amplification. Lane M, 1-Kb ladder. lane 1, KA (bone marrow); lane 2, KA (blood); lane 3, malaria (blood); lane 4, tuberculosis (blood); lane 5, control from the area of endemicity (blood); lane 6, PKDL (skin lesion); lane 7, leprosy (lesion).

Fig 6. Sequence of PCR products with DNA isolated from *L. donovani* DD8 strain, isolates and clinical samples of KA and PKDL.

```
   1 gaattcgccg aaaaatgacc gaaaatgggc caaaaaccca aacttttctg gtccrcgggg
  61 tagggggcgtt ctgccgaaaac cgaaaaatgg gtgcagaaat cccgttcaaa aaatagccaa
 121 aaatgccaaa aatcggctcc gaggcgggaa actgggggtt ggtgtaaaat agggtcgggt
 181 ggaggggaaa ttcgggggctc ggacgtgtgt ggatatggcc tgggtgggga ctttggagtg
 241 ggttgtacct gtatgggggtt ttggacctgg cttggggttt gggggttggt gtgggaaagg
 301 ggttggcgct atttggagtg acgttggctc ttttgataat tgatatttgc ttaaaattgg
 361 attggttcgg ctggatatac gttggttggg ttggatttgg attggatttg gatttttgtac
 421 ggggttgggg gattgatttg gggttgagga gtttgtgggg atagttttgg atgttagtat
 481 ggaatgtagc ttcctttaat ataaatatta gttggggctg ttgcattagt ttgttccacg
 541 ggagtagcct caggacttta ggcgggagat actatattat cggtagtata atatcataag
 601 tatacggtat agatatatgt taattgtagt atattgtaga tctatgttac agtgtatagt
 661 ctatgaactt actagatata atttgtattt gatgctatag tgctactgat agagtgtacg
 721 tatcactagt atagacgtag ctgaagctcc ttaaatgggt gggaatgggt gtgagggctg
 781 gaagagacac cg
```